

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7677

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5106

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, NATO, BE, (VAN ELSLANDE, RENAAT)

SUBJECT: VISIT BY BELGIAN FONMIN VAN ELSLANDE

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN

1. DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) JUST ASKED TO SEE MCAULIFFE ON  
"MOST URGENT" BASIS.

2. DE STAERCKE, WHO HAD ALREADY BEEN CONTACTED BY DAVIGNON  
EARLIER IN MORNING, SAID BELGIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON HAD BEEN  
UNABLE TO SCHEDULE MEETING WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER EITHER  
IN NEW YORK OR WASHINGTON FOR FONMIN VAN ELSLANDE WHO WILL  
BE IN U.S. SEPTEMBER 22 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 29 TO ATTEND UNGA.  
DAVIGNON, ACCORDING TO DE STAERCKE, ASKED LATTER TO REQUEST  
AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD TO INTERVENE PERSONALLY WITH SECRETARY  
KISSINGER'S OFFICE TO SEE IF APPOINTMENT - EVEN A FIFTEEN - OR  
TWENTY-MINUTE ONE-- IN EITHER NEW YORK OR WASHINGTON COULD  
POSSIBLE BE ARRANGED. DE STAERCKE ASKED MCAULIFFE TO  
CONVEY TO RUMSFELD HIS PERSONAL PLEA THAT SECRETARY ACCEDE  
TO VAN ELSLANDE'S REQUEST AND FIX DATE.

3. DAVIGNON TELEPHONED AGAIN WHILE CONVERSATION WAS IN PROGRESS;  
AND DE STAERCKE THEN SAID VAN ELSLANDE PREPARED TO REMAIN AN  
EXTRA DAY IN U.S. IF ONLY HE CAN SECURE MEETING WITH SECRETARY.  
HE ALSO NOTED THAT MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY KISSINGER AND  
BELGIAN FONMIN WILL CERTAINLY HAVE NO ADVERSE EFFECT ON  
POSSIBLE SALE OF U.S. AIRCRAFT TO GOB TO REPLACE F-104'S;  
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AND THAT HE AND DIVIGNON WOULD BE AVAILABLE AT ANY HOUR  
OF DAY OR NIGHT WHEN AND IF FAVORABLE RESPONSE RECEIVED  
FROM WASHINGTON OR FROM AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD.

4. MCAULIFFE EXPLAINED SCHEDULING PROBLEMS THAT ALWAYS BESET SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISITS TO UNGA AND CONSEQUENT CROWDING OF SECRETARY'S WASHINGTON CALENDAR WHEN SO MANY FONMINS PRESENT IN NEW YORK. ON PERSONAL BASIS HE FELT CERTAIN AUTHORITIES IN WASHINGTON WERE ALREADY DOING THEIR UTMOST TO ACCOMMODATE BELGIAN REQUEST BUT THAT THIS ADDITIONAL SPECIAL PLEA BY DE STAERCKE AND DAVIGNON WOULD SURELY RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION AT SENIOR LEVELS. MCAULIFFE ALSO EXPLAINED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD FUNERAL OF AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD'S FATHER WAS SCHEDULED FOR TODAY.

5. DE STAERCKE SAID THAT WAS A PITY BECAUSE DON RUMSFELD CAN ALWAYS ARRANGE EVERYTHING. HE AGAIN ASKED THAT MCAULIFFE CONVEY THIS PLEA FROM HIM AND DAVIGNON TO DEPARTMENT, AND THAT MISSION ENLIST AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD'S HELP IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.

6. PLEASE ADVISE.  
MCAULIFFE

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